

IN THE CLAIMS

\ Please add new Claim 17 as follows:

B1
--17. (New) An optical scanning apparatus comprising:
a laser unit in which a laser source and an optical element for converting a
light beam emerging from the laser source are provided;
an incident optical system for making the light beam emerging from the
optical element strike an optical deflector while keeping the light beam wider than a width
of a deflecting surface of the optical deflector in a main scanning direction; and
an imaging optical system for forming the light beam reflected/deflected by
the optical deflector into an image on a scanned surface,
wherein said laser unit is adapted to be shifted in a predetermined direction
with respect to an optical axis of said incident optical system.--

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are pending, of which Claims 1-16 have been allowed. Claim
17 has been added to provide Applicants with a more complete scope of protection.

Claims 1, 14, and 17 are in independent form.

Applicants have requested a three-month suspension of action in the
Request for Continued Examination submitted herewith.